

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L HONG KONG 2480

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E. O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT CH
SUBJ: CH' EN HSI- LIEN' S NEW CCP SECRETARIES

REF: A. HONG KONG A-46; B. HONG KONG 1235

SUMMARY. THE CENTER' S EFFORT TO PLACE CIVILIANS ON THE BASE
PROVINCE PARTY COMMITTEE OF ITS POWERFUL MILITARY REGION
COMMANDERS (REF A) HAS TAKEN AN IMPORTANT STEP FORWARD.
POLITBURO MEMBER CH' EN HSI- LIEN' S LIAONING CCP COMMITTEE NOW
HAS THREE NEW CIVILIAN SECRETARIES, REDUCING THE MILITARY
SECRETARIES THERE TO MINORITY STATUS. END SUMMARY

1. IN ITS MARCH 11 COVERAGE OF LIAONING PROVINCE' S COMMUNIST
YOUTH LEAGUE (CYL) CONGRESS' CLOSING, NCNA IDENTIFIED CIVILIAN
HUANG OU- TUNG AS A LIAONING CCP SECRETARY. EARLIER, A MARCH 5
LIAONING BROADCAST LISTING OF PRICINCIAL PARTY SECRETARIES
INCLUDED, FOR THE FIRST TIME, CIVILIANS KAO WEN- CHUNG AND HU
YI- MIN (MONITORED AS KU WEI- MING).

2. OF THE THREE NEW CIVILIANS, HUANG IS THE MOST IMPORTANT. HE
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WAS LIAONING' S GOVERNOR FROM 1958-66 AND DISAPPEARED DURING THE CULTURAL REVOLUTION. HIS SURFACING NOW (HE FIRST REAPPEARED FEBRUARY 23) COMES AMIDST INDICATIONS THAT FORMER GOVERNORS ELSEWHERE ARE BEING GIVEN TOP- LEVEL RESPONSIBILITIES (REFS A AND B). HU YI- MIN IS A FORMER LIAONING CCP ALTERNATE SECRETARY. HE SERVED UNDER HUANG (WHO WAS THE PROVINCIAL SECOND SECRETARY AS WELL AS GOVERNOR) BEFORE BEOTH DROPPED FROM VIEW IN 1966. THE THIRD NEW CIVILIAN SECRETARY, KAO WEN- CHUNG, IS A MEMBER OF THE PROVINCE' S FOREIGN AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT, AND THUS CONNECTED TO THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS IN PEKING.

3. TAKEN TOGETHER, THE NEW APPOINTMENTS SUGGEST A REDUCTION OF POLITBURO MEMBER CH' EN HSI- LIEN' S AUTHORITY OVER NON- MILITARY AFFAIRS IN LIAONING. WHEN CH' EN FORMED HIS PROVINCIAL PARTY COMMITTEE IN EARLY 1971, THERE WERE THREE MILITARY AND NO CIVILIAN SECRETARIES. NOW IN ADDITION TO THE SAME THREE MILITARY, THERE ARE FIVE CIVILIANS (TWO ARE PROMOTED DEPUTY SECRETARIES; WR-2).

4. OF COURSE, CH' EN HAS WORKED WITH ALL THE NEW SECRETARIES BEFORE. HE AND HUANG WERE TOGETHER AS SECRETARIES IN THE OLD NORTHEAST PARTY BUREAU, AND HE MAY WELL NOT OBJECT TO HUANG AND OTHERS JOINING HIS TOP LEADERSHIP NOW. YET THE MARCH 5 KIAONING REPORT-- PERHAPS REFLECTING CH' EN' S PIQUE-- LISTED THE MILITARY SECRETARIES WITH THEIR PLA TITLES AHEAD OF THEIR PARTY DESIGNATIONS. THIS HAD THE EFFECT OF SHARPLY SEPARATING THEM FROM THEIR NON- MILITARY COMRADES.

5. WHETHER OR NOT HE IS UPSET, THE CENTER' S DRIVE TO FORCE MILITARY REGION COMMANDERS TO SHARE THEIR POWER (REF A AND B) HAS NOW AFFECTED THE ANTI- LIN PIAO CH' EN AS MUCH AS IT HAS SEVERAL FORMER LIN ASSOCIATES. BY CONTRAST, THE KIANGSU CCP LEADERSHIP OF CH' EN' S POLITBURO COLLEAGUE HSU SHIH- YU THUS FAR REMAINS UNTOUCHED.
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